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CPW Report No. 36-A -- COMMUNIST CHINA

(Aug. 18-24, 1952)

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1. (1b) Russian Economic Control:

Dairen announced (Aug. 21) that various commemoration programs would be held in Dairen and Port Arthur to celebrate "the seventh anniversary of the liberation of the area."

2. (1b) SSFA Expansion:

Hangchow reported (Aug. 22) that the Chekiang Sino-Soviet Friendship Association called a meeting to discuss its program of increased propaganda to boost production; propaganda on Soviet construction achievements; an increased membership of 2 million; popularization of Soviet movies; and collections of photographs of SSFA activities for exhibit in the USSR. Peking, Wuhsi, and Shanghai (Aug. 21) broadcast the new Russian Five Year Plan.

3. (1c) Soviet Technical Guidance:

Peking in numeral code (Aug. 22) carried a commentary on Soviet adviser Lushenko: "The Chinese People Thank Him." Peking said (Aug. 23) that basic economic construction would soon succeed rehabilitation in the Northeast. Plans for the new program included adoption of 30 advanced Soviet techniques. "Our great ally, the USSR, is giving us much assistance with our basic construction program. Soviet technicians not only are contributing to the planning, but have taken actual part in construction work. The USSR has given us her latest machinery for use in her factories."

Peking added in numeral code (Aug. 24) that by adopting Soviet techniques, a steel company in Central and South China had set new records. Mukden asserted (Aug. 23) that workers in the Fifth Northeast Electrical Supply Factory had increased production 30 to 70 percent by adopting Soviet charting methods. Dairen claimed (Aug. 19) great improvements through use of Soviet methods in the Dairen textile mills.

Shanghai stated (Aug. 21) that a workers' brigade in the Pingshan Coal Mine, Shantung, increased digging efficiency 80 percent by using Soviet methods. Peking asserted in numeral code (Aug. 22) that export furs and sausage casings of the Sinkiang Animal Products Co. were not up to international standards until Soviet technicians took charge and instructed the workers.

Anshan complained (Aug. 19) that workers in a local machine parts factory had failed by not accurately following blueprint specifications. Anshan added (Aug. 20) that cadres in the Anshan Construction Co. called a meeting to discuss the production drop resulting from "irresponsibility of the workers." Peking said in numeral code (Aug. 24) that a Tangshan Railway Factory Party official criticized the conservative thinking of technicians and said: "We must study carefully and humbly the progressive experiences of the Soviet Union."

4. (2a) War Burdens:

Shanghai announced (Aug. 23) that 610 Shanghai workers' homes had been razed for widening of two 10-meter arterial highways to 3 meters. Peking reported in numeral code (Aug. 21) that a North China Democratic Women's League had been organized to promote participation by women in farm and industrial work. Chungking said (Aug. 22) that the Democratic Women's Leagues of Sikang and Szechwan had ordered women to take part in the autumn harvest "as a patriotic duty."

Peking announced in numeral code (Aug. 19) that in the past 6 months, loans, preferential treatment, grants, and relief to peasants in the old revolutionary bases of North China totaled more than 100 billion yuan. Shanghai reported (Aug. 19) that the East China Government was setting up a technical college to

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train disabled veterans for technical and Government jobs. Sian stated (Aug. 24) that 500 persons at the local Changan station saw a group of recuperated wounded veterans depart for the Korean front. Chungking said (Aug. 20) that in the mountainous Meishan Hsien, Szechwan, 200 women and an old man of 68 had been mobilized to save crops of army men's dependents.

5. (2a) War Propaganda:

Peking announced (Aug. 18) that with American training of tankmen and antiaircraft experts, Japan was rapidly becoming militarized. Peking said (Aug. 22) that the China Committee for Peace had sent messages to peace-loving people all over the world protesting the indiscriminate bombing of Korean civilians, and had called upon the Chinese masses to strengthen the resist-America, aid-Korea drive. Peking asserted (Aug. 21) that Communists in July killed or wounded 19,502 enemy forces, and shot down 269 American planes. Peking (Aug. 22) quoted an American admiral as admitting that U.S. attempts to prevent Chinese supplies from reaching the front had failed.

Peking added (Aug. 23) that a TASS report showed American mothers demanding the return of their sons from Korea; American military expenses a burden that placed the Government deeper in the red daily; and the Sino-Japanese Friendship Association in Japan designating September as Sino-Japanese Friendship Month.

6. (2c) Goods Shortages:

Peking announced in numeral code (Aug. 19) that the Ministry of Health had banned as "faulty" the popular chekuchai drug for treating children's ailments, manufactured by the Hunghsing Drug Co. of Shanghai. Peking reported (Aug. 19) that local cooperatives had been ordered to increase the supply of ginned cotton assigned for making of winter padded clothing and quilts for peasants. Wuhsi said (Aug. 20) that the Department of Industry of Southern Kiangsu was conserving starch by ordering cloth mills to register their stocks of starched cloth, and organizing groups to study cloth-making without starch and to train workers.

7. (3a) Counterrevolutionary Indications:

Wuhan reported (Aug. 18) that Hupeh Military District authorities had ordered units to guard grain in storage and in transit against destruction by landlords, bandits, and special agents. Wuhan added (Aug. 20) that many landlords in Central and South China had been accused of bribing militiamen and leading peasants to sabotage production and create dissatisfaction.

Kunming said (Aug. 22) that the Yunnan Party Committee dispatched cadres into the mountainous areas of Yunnan to promote land reform and "heighten the political consciousness" of the people. Though many mountain people welcomed the suppression of counterrevolutionaries, some cadres were "unable to make much headway," and were undergoing additional training.

8. (3c) Moves Toward Regimentation:

Peking announced in numeral code (Aug. 18) that the Administration Council had promulgated a law to control publications by demanding registration of all printing or publishing concerns with statements of capital, output, and operations, and placing them under a Publications Administration. Publications were forbidden to issue anything inimical to the State, reveal State secrets, publish banned or imported works, or suspend publication without permission. Shanghai stated (Aug. 21) that the Shanghai deputy mayor told a meeting of East China newsmen that Shanghai papers had been "propagating erroneous thoughts for the past 3 years," and that newsmen must learn to operate their papers for service rather than profit.

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Peking announced in numeral code (Aug. 21) that graduates of Wuhan and Honan Universities had expressed their willingness to accept assigned jobs. Peking added (Aug. 22) that Chu Te talked to Peking University graduates, urging them to accept job assignments. Wuhsi reported (Aug. 24) that all 204 graduates of the South Kiangsu College had "overcome their worries" and signed agreements to accept Government assignments to national construction jobs, "after a month of indoctrination."

9. (3c) Strengthening Party Controls:

Anshan reported (Aug. 20) that propaganda cadres of the local Party Committee were inspecting work shops, with the propaganda chief scheduled to make a radio talk entitled: "The Chinese Communist Party Will Implement Communism in China." Sian noted (Aug. 19) that in Shensi the Party had 39,600 propaganda cadres and 2,180 reporting personnel. Wuhan reported (Aug. 19) that Hengyang railway workers held a meeting to discuss the strengthening of Party leadership.

Wuhan reported (Aug. 22) that the Kiangsi Communist Party had opened classes to prepare future Party members, and considered 30,000 of the 170,000 active elements working for the Party as prospects. Kunming reported (Aug. 18) a campaign in local Government offices to increase Party membership, along with a propaganda campaign. Many shop clerks attending classes in Communism were reported applying for membership. Kunming added (Aug. 18) that in Chengkung Hsien, Yunnan, a campaign to increase Party membership had been launched. Through indoctrination classes, peasants now were convinced that "only the Communist Party can lead them toward the happy life of a Communist society."

10. (3d) Reaction to Anticorruption Drive:

Chungking revealed (Aug. 20) that in southern Szechwan the Government had received 169 letters and 168 visits from people reporting matters concerning the anti-corruption drive. Wuhan stated (Aug. 21) that in 18 local trades, workers and shop assistants "have assumed the attitude of being master of the house to supervise management in production and business," as well as in accounting and use of bank loans.

11. (4) Overseas Affairs:

Kunming reported (Aug. 20) that local Overseas Chinese had issued a "strong protest" against Thai restrictions on Chinese residents, calling the regulations "another disgrace in a long series of actions by the Thai Government," and charging Thailand with "handing Overseas Chinese to the Chiang bandit clique to serve as cannon fodder for American imperialists." The YUNNAN JIH PAO declared Thai discrimination against Chinese cannot be condoned, and called for "positive steps."

12. (4) Border Minorities:

Peking reported in numeral code (Aug. 21) that the Sinkiang subbureau of the Communist Party had decided to institute land reforms this winter, as peasants now held one-third of the area, and 1,000 of them had joined the Party. At a recent conference it was decided that the "nomadic areas must remain semifeudalistic and semicapitalistic," and cadres were charged with too much haste in implementing reforms. The conference urged harmony between Han and minority cadres through a study of Communist theories, and "elimination of the erroneous idea of narrow nationalism by the minorities."

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